



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Wales Biosecurity Measures

Self-Assessment Checklist for Keepers of Small Poultry Flocks



All bird keepers of small poultry flock in Wales (with less than 50 birds) **must** complete this form annually and retain it as a record. This is a legal requirement when an Avian Influenza Prevention Zone is in place in Wales.

Keepers may be asked to produce a completed checklist for inspection.

Farm/premises name:

Address:

Contact Tel/Mobile No:

CPH (*If applicable*):

EMI Number (*If applicable*):

Type of enterprise
(*Egg, Meat, Breeding, Showing, mixed breeds, hatchery etc*)

Usual stock numbers and species

Completed by:

Name:

Date:

Signed: (*Please print in block capitals*)

Status: (*e.g. Owner, Keeper etc*)

Registration

Are you registered on the Poultry Register of Great Britain? (If you keep more than 50 birds you must register your birds – this is a legal requirement, if you keep less than 50 birds you are encouraged to voluntarily register.)

www.gov.uk/government/publications/poultry-including-game-birds-registration-rules-and-forms

Biosecurity

Biosecurity is a day-to-day activity, Keepers should consider when purchasing poultry, their needs and requirements. More importantly in the event of an Avian Influenza housing order how you can house or keep them confined.

1. Premises details

Please draw or attach a plan of your premises, bio-security points, foot dips

Questionnaire

2. Who deals with your poultry on a daily basis? Please name

3. Are all family members & employees aware of their responsibility for biosecurity including accidental transfer of infection.

Yes ☐ No ☐

4. Are personnel aware of the importance of always changing footwear and overalls, before entering & leaving the live bird/housed area and leaving used footwear at the premises?

Yes ☐ No ☐

5. General Biosecurity

i. Do you ensure that feed and water are covered under a hard roof and not accessible to wild birds?

Yes ☐ No ☐

ii. Do you ensure feeding and drink troughs, bowls, and vessels are cleaned regularly?

Yes ☐ No ☐

iii. Do you store feed in a secure vessel?

Yes ☐ No ☐

iv. Do you store your bedding and enrichment in a biosecure way?

Yes ☐ No ☐

v. Do you ensure that fallen stock/animal products etc. (e.g. eggs, spoiled feed, general waste, carcasses) are correctly disposed. For further information see: [Fallen stock and safe disposal of dead animals – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fallen-stock-and-safe-disposal-of-dead-animals)

Yes ☐ No ☐

6. Is your disinfectant Government approved?

For the list of disinfectants please check:

www.disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList_SI

What disinfectants do you use?

At what dilution?

How often you are refreshing it?

Is the boot dip container covered?

Yes

☐

No

☐

7. Rodent & Pest control

Do you use a contractor?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Self- Baiting?

Yes

☐

No

☐

N/A

☐

Other?

☐

Contractor Details or Other

8. Multiple poultry species

If keeping different species, are your ducks and geese separate from other types of poultry?

Yes

☐

No

☐

N/A

☐

If “Yes”, please describe the current arrangements

9. Do your poultry have access to ponds and water courses?

Ponds and water courses attract wild waterfowl, such as ducks, geese and swans who can carry the Avian Influenza virus and spread it without showing any signs of illness.

Yes ☐ No ☐

If "Yes", please provide details

* To note, that if an Avian Influenza Prevention Zone is implemented, keepers may be required to reduce/close off access for their birds to water bodies on their premises due to the risk of spread from wild waterfowl

10. If mandatory housing is introduced under AIPZ requirements, it is a legal obligation that all poultry are housed and contained. Runs should be covered with either a hard surface or meshed cover.

Please describe how your poultry would be contained (*if applicable*)

Please retain the completed form in your records so that it can be produced upon request by Animal Plant Health, Local Authority, or other agencies. The self-assessment checklist should be reviewed on an annual basis.

Signs of bird flu

Birds infected with the most serious strain of bird flu, called highly pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), usually show some (or all) of the following signs:

- sudden death
- swollen head
- closed and runny eyes
- lethargy and depression
- lying down and unresponsiveness
- lack of coordination
- eating less than usual
- lethargy
- sudden increase or decrease in water consumption
- head and body shaking
- drooping of the wings
- dragging of legs
- twisting of the head and neck
- swelling and blue discolouration of comb and wattles
- haemorrhages and redness on leg shanks and under the skin of the neck
- breathing difficulties such as gaping (mouth breathing), nasal snicking (coughing sound), sneezing, gurgling, or rattling
- fever or noticeable increase in body temperature
- discoloured or loose watery droppings
- stop or significant drop in egg production.

Some species such as ducks, geese and swans can carry the Avian Influenza virus and spread it without showing any signs of illness.

Birds infected with the less serious strain of bird flu, called low pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI) may not show clear signs of infection. They may have mild breathing problems. These signs can indicate bird flu, but the avian influenza virus can only be confirmed through laboratory tests.

If you are concerned about the health of your birds speak to your private vet. If you suspect bird flu, you or your vet must report it immediately to the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) even if the signs are mild.

Report suspected bird flu in poultry or other captive birds:

If you suspect bird flu in poultry or other captive birds, you must report it immediately by calling 03003 038 268 (if you're in Wales).

Bird flu is a [notifiable disease](#) in poultry and other captive birds. If you do not report it, you're breaking the law.